Everyone deserves a safe and healthy home. That's our fundamental belief.

We provide critical home repairs to ensure the safety and health of community residents in need including seniors, people with disabilities and families with children. In these challenging times, our work is more important than ever.

Our volunteers make modifications so seniors can safely age in place and retrofit homes to make them accessible for people with disabilities. We make repairs and modifications to prevent falls, control moisture and improve fire safety in homes. We make other basic repairs to help homeowners who are struggling to keep up with home maintenance.

It's always rewarding to see firsthand how dramatically our repairs and accessibility modifications benefit homeowners in need and to witness the deep satisfaction our volunteers draw from solving problems and helping their neighbors.

Rebuilding Together – AFF brings a small slice of kindness, hope and compassion to our communities.



#### Repairing Homes, Revitalizing Communities, Rebuilding Lives.

# We had an exceptional year made possible by our volunteers, partners, and donors. Together, we are contributing to the solution for safe, affordable, and thriving communities for our neighbors in need.

Our partners, donors and volunteers enable us to provide no-cost, life-changing home repairs and modifications allowing our neighbors in need to spend their limited income on essential expenses such as food, medicine, and transportation.

Hearing gratitude from our clients after a rebuilding day warms our hearts. However, tens of thousands of homeowners in our region are living in unsafe, unhealthy homes. Stable housing is key to overall well-being, including mental and physical health, job productivity, student achievement, and financial security. We have a lot of work ahead of us, but we also have a lot to celebrate!

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers and partners we provided home repairs and modifications that impacted the lives of 181 people living in 110 homes in FY2023. Additionally, we made repairs for seven nonprofit organizations that provide housing and services for vulnerable populations. Together we helped seniors age safely in place, ensured accessible housing for people with disabilities, and assisted families in maintaining their homes, contributing to the preservation of affordable housing.



We welcomed 17 teams from our faith, corporate and community partners for National Rebuilding Day and other Rebuilding Days throughout the year. Each team was matched with a project based on the needs of the household and the scope of work. These teams brought tremendous enthusiasm to their Rebuilding Days, some sharing skills and others gaining skills making repairs and modifications. Their efforts not only brought joy to the household members but also left a lasting impact on the health and safety of the neighbors and nonprofits we assisted. Many of our partners contribute their own skilled team leaders, playing a crucial role by dedicating countless hours to planning repairs and coaching their team members. Other partners rely on RT-AFF and our skilled volunteers to oversee and manage their Rebuilding Day projects, providing their groups with a meaningful hands-on experience.

## Our Long Term Impact

Since 1988, Rebuilding Together-AFF has

Gathered 70,700 volunteers



who



Donated 586,300 hours

Performed repairs & modifications on **2,660** homes and nonprofits



Provided \$15.7 million of donated labor



28,000 older, very low-income homeowners in Northern Virginia are struggling to meet their basic needs and more than 25% of them report falling each year. Falls are the leading cause of injury-related death in this age group. RT-AFF's low-cost fall safety modifications can be lifechanging for our neighbors in need who live in homes that lack key accessibility features.

"I was afraid of falling trying to get out of my shower. Thanks to the grab bars I feel safer." Ms. J

Our RT Express team leaders and volunteers are the backbone of our everyday work, and we are continuously impressed by their skill, dedication, and especially the kindness they exude when working with seniors in their homes.

RT Express relies on volunteer team leaders and a pool of skilled and talented volunteers who regularly work on projects. They gain deep satisfaction in learning from each other and in making dramatic differences in the lives of the neighbors we assist. We have welcomed many new volunteers to RT Express this year - some with a high level of skill and some who are mentored as they develop their skills on projects.

The most common RT Express modifications are installing grab bars, double stair rails, comfort height toilets and brighter lighting. But the scope of work for each homeowner depends on the health and safety hazards that our staff and volunteers identify through a systematic assessment of each home, and understanding of how a homeowner lives in their home.



#### Exterior railings, ramps and stairlifts provide critical accessibility.

Some homeowners become isolated because they can't leave their homes due to disabilities. Others need assistance leaving their homes because they fear falling on their steps. Our volunteers have mastered building ramps and exterior railings so homeowners can make more trips for medical care, make more choices in their daily activities, reconnect with family and neighbors and safely age in place.

Stairlifts give homeowners a safe and secure way to get to the second level of their homes. We accept donated stairlifts and make sure they are in good working order so they can safely be installed for a homeowner in need. Mrs. M smiled brightly the first time she tried her new stairlift. Bad knees and hips made it extremely hard for her to get to the only bathroom in her two story home. Our work changes peoples lives for the better.

#### Rebuilding Days with our faith, corporate and community partners, individual volunteers and contractors allow us to complete deeper repairs.

Some of the homeowners we help need extensive or complex repairs due to deferred maintenance, drainage and moisture problems, leaking roofs, or the need for an accessible bathroom. Meeting their needs requires RT-AFF to layer support by engaging larger teams of our skilled volunteers, hiring contractors, recruiting corporate partners with skilled trades people or securing funding from a foundation or major donor. Here are some stories from our Rebuilding Days.





Lockheed Martin partnered with us on one of eight projects nationwide as part of the Veterans at Home program. A group of our skilled volunteers built the framework for the porch and ramp for John, a veteran who uses a wheelchair. The team then worked alongside Lockheed Martin volunteers to cut and install the porch and ramp boards. The new zero-step entry gave John the freedom to enjoy the sun and fresh air on the porch. Additionally, the ramp made it easier for John's wife to take him to critical medical appointments. We addressed 14 health and safety priorities so the home meets all 25 priorities. John's wife expressed her gratitude, writing "All these volunteers have beautiful and kind hearts. We are grateful for each and every one of you." During Fiscal Year 2023 Rebuilding Together-AFF



Received 6,924 hours of donated labor

Completed projects at 110 homes and 7 nonprofits.





Donated labor was valued at \$356,134

Dulin United Methodist Church has been our steadfast partner for 15 years, demonstrating a passion for helping people in our community. The team boasts a core group of talented and skilled volunteers eager to tackle a wide range of repairs while providing hands-on experience to many of their teenage members. Mrs. F greeted the team enthusiastically on National Rebuilding Day as they set to work on her home of 40 years. The team's efforts included installing railings and grab bars, repairs to her well-used kitchen cabinets, addressing electrical and plumbing repairs and more, covering 11 health and safety priorities. Mrs. F thoroughly enjoyed her day with the volunteers and can now live more safely in her aging home.





The Washington Building Congress (WBC), a building industry association that's partnered with RT-AFF since 2008, is committed to supporting and sustaining communities in our region. We can always count on WBC to make deep repairs for homeowners. Recently, a team of 40 professional volunteers helped Mrs. T whose home suffered from water intrusion through the roof and basement, and had tripping hazards in the yard and entries. The team tackled many issues. They removed the deteriorated back porch and built a new one with safe steps and railings. New storm doors were installed on both the back and front entries to keep her warm. The broken sump pump was replaced to alleviate standing water in her basement. Concrete pros poured a new sidewalk, so Mrs. T no longer worries about tripping on the uneven pavers. A landscape crew took care of her overgrown yard, and to cap it off, the team painted the exterior of Mrs. T's home, much to her delight.

Important statistics about the households we helped this past year:

Qualify as Very Low or Extremely Low income

Average Age of the homeowners served

85%

73

86%

Households with someone over age 65

Households included someone with a disability

61%

### Donors and Partners

\$25,000+ Arlington County **Community Development Block Grant** Fairfax County Consolidated Community Funding Pool Fairfax County Nonprofit Sustainability Grant Peter Finkel and Elaine Mulligan \$10,000-\$24,999 Morgan Stanley Don Ryan and Marilena Amoni

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Rebuilding Together Arlington/Fairfax/Falls Church is grateful for the generosity and commitment of our donors and partners in FY 2023. These gifts were received between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023. A complete list of our donors can be found on our website. Your confidence and support are deeply appreciated.

#### \$1,000-\$4,999 (cont)

Bush Hill Presbyterian Church CarMax Alberto and Lucina Chalmeta Andy Clinton with matching funds from Freddie Mac Andrew Dumont Fairfax Presbyterian Church Thomas and Jean Falvey David H. Gelfand and Ellen Daniell James Gould and Laura Winfrey Grace Episcopal Church Great Aunt's Fund, a Donor Advised Fund of the U.S. Charitable Gift Trust Patricia J. Hupalo King of Kings Lutheran Church **Marcus Partners** William Marshall, Jr. **Richard E. Meyers** Kenneth and Camille Mittelholtz Bradley and Elizabeth Moffett Navy Federal Credit Union Ox Hill Baptist Church Tony and Elizabeth Poole Psi Alpha Alpha Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity **Resurrection EV Lutheran Church Rock Spring Congregational UCC** Elaine A. Roeseler

#### \$1,000-\$4,999 (cont)

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Support our mission: make a contribution, sponsor a group project, sign up to volunteer.